

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
HITCHINS et al.) Art Unit: 3763
Serial No.: 09/436,612)
Filed: November 9, 1999) Examiner: John D. Yasko, Jr.
For: PLUNGER SYSTEMS)



PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please enter the following amendments in the application before the examination thereof.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claim 20 without disclaimer or prejudice to presenting it in this or a later-filed application.

Please add the following new claim:

-- 21. The syringe of Claim 11 wherein the plunger surface further comprises a protruding member at a forward end thereof, the protruding member being adapted to enter the discharge end of the syringe when the plunger is advanced to expel liquid therefrom. --

RECEIVED

JAN 31 2001

TC 3700 MAIL ROOM